

# **CHAPTER 40**

# **COOPERATION**

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## **41 INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS**

### **41.1 CANADIAN SUPPORT - POLICY**

Canadian resources can be mobilized by the Eastern Area Coordination Center through three different procedures:

1. Regionally: Through the International Agreement, see NMG, Chapter 40.
2. Forests: Through a Border Agreement for Initial Attack.
3. States: Responding to a compact member and sent to state protected lands (remaining a State resource).

### **41.2 CANADA SUPPORT - OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES**

See NMG Ch. 40 and the Canadian Interagency Forest Fire Centre Export Manual

### **41.3 AUSTRALIA SUPPORT - POLICY** (See NMG Ch. 40)

### **41.4 AUSTRALIA SUPPORT - OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES** (See NMG Ch. 40)

### **41.5 NEW ZEALAND SUPPORT - POLICY** (See NMG Ch. 40)

### **41.6 NEW ZEALAND SUPPORT - OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES** (See NMG Ch. 40)

### **41.7 MEXICO SUPPORT - POLICY** (See NMG Ch. 40)

### **41.8 MEXICO SUPPORT - OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES** (See NMG Ch. 40)

## **42 INTERAGENCY AGREEMENTS** (See NMG Ch. 40)

### **42.1 Memorandum of Understanding between the Department of Defense and the Departments of Agriculture and the Interior** (See NMG Ch. 40)

### **42.2 Interagency Agreement for the Provision of Temporary Support During Wildland Firefighting Operations among the United States Department of the Interior, the United States Department of Agriculture and the United States Department of Defense** (See NMG Ch. 40)

### **42.3 Interagency Agreement for Fire Management between the Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Indian Affairs, National Park Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service of the United States Department of the Interior and the Forest Service of the United States Department of Agriculture** (See NMG Ch. 40)

- 42.4 Memorandum of Understanding between the United States Department of Agriculture Forest Service and the United States Department of the Interior – Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Indian Affairs, National Park Service, Fish and Wildlife Service, and Bureau of Reclamation (Law Enforcement) (See NMG Ch. 40)**
- 42.5 International Emergency Assistance Response Process – Operating Plan for USDA Forest Service (See NMG Ch. 40)**
- 42.6 Bureau of Land Management, Assistant Directorate – Resource Use & Protection, Office of Fire and Aviation Management, International Program (See NMG Ch. 40)**
- 42.7 Interagency Memorandum of Agreement between U.S. Department of Agriculture – Forest Service, U.S. Department of the Interior – Bureau of Land Management, and United States Army – Special Operations Command (See NMG Ch. 40)**
- 43 SMOKEJUMPER AGREEMENT (See NMG Ch. 40)**
- 44 MODULAR AIRBORNE FIREFIGHTING SYSTEM (MAFFS) AGREEMENTS (See NMG Ch. 40)**
  - 44.1 Agreement between North Carolina Department of Natural Resources and Community Development, Division of Forest Resources, and Forest Service – United States Department of Agriculture (See NMG Ch. 40)**
  - 44.2 Agreement between California – Department of Forestry, the National Guard, and USDA – Forest Service, Pacific Southwest Region (See NMG Ch. 40)**
  - 44.3 Collection Agreement between Wyoming State Forestry Division and the Forest Service – United States Department of Agriculture (See NMG Ch. 40)**

## **45 OTHER AGREEMENTS**

### **45.1 REGION 8 & REGION 9 SUPPRESSION SUPPORT**

#### **SOUTHERN REGION AND EASTERN REGION**

Region 8 and 9, with the consent of NICC, have signed a Memorandum of Understanding to allow the exchange of initial attack resources between regions along the border without going through NICC. This agreement is formulated to facilitate the exchange of fire suppression resources between Region 8 and Region 9 of the Forest Service with the objective of dispatching the closest available forces to wildfires.

Forest resources adjacent to the R-8/R-9 boundary that can be moved to an incident within a ground travel time of four hours may be ordered and dispatched between the adjacent Forests for initial action. The sending and receiving Forests will notify their respective Geographic Area Coordinators of the resources dispatched or received. The sending Geographic Area Coordinator will notify the National Interagency Coordination Center (NICC) of resources committed through this MOU. Resources requested after the first burning period of an incident will be considered extended action and will be ordered through regular channels.

Air tankers, helicopters, lead planes, large transport and fire cache items not adjacent to the R-8/R-9 boundary will be requested through the respective Geographic Area Coordinator's Office. The sending Geographic Area Coordinator will notify NICC when these resources have been committed.

When direct ordering becomes too large an impact on either Region, or resources are drawn down, all or any part of the resources covered by this MOU will be ordered through NICC.

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING  
BETWEEN  
REGION 8 AND REGION 9**

This agreement is formulated to facilitate the exchange of fire suppression resources between Region 8 and Region 9 of the Forest Service with the objective of dispatching the closest available forces to wildfires.

Forest resources adjacent to the R-8/R-9 boundary that can be moved to an incident within a ground travel time of four (4) hours may be ordered and dispatched between the adjacent Forests for initial action. The sending and receiving Forests will notify their respective Geographic Area Coordinators of the resources dispatched or received. The sending Geographic Area Coordinator will notify National Interagency Coordination Center (NICC) of resources committed through this Memorandum of Understanding. Resources requested after the first burning period of an incident will be considered extended action and will be ordered through regular channels.

/s/LeRoy Jones  
for John E. Alcock  
Regional Forester, Region 8

DATE: June 10, 1987

/s/Floyd J. Marita  
Floyd J. Marita  
Regional Forester, Region 9

DATE: July 2, 1987

## **45.2 GACC-TO-GACC INITIAL ATTACK ORDERING OF AIRTANKERS AND LEADPLANES**

Initial attack incidents are those that are controlled by the initial attack forces without the need for major reinforcements and within the first operational period. Initial attack involving the commitment of resources across recognized dispatch boundaries must comply with the following guidelines:

The Eastern Area Coordination Center (EACC) may order initial attack air tankers and lead planes positioned at Fort Smith, AR (FSM); Knoxville, TN (TYS); and Asheville, NC (AVL) directly from the Southern Area Coordination Center (SACC).

The change of status of any air tanker or lead plane, and flight following information will be communicated by the sending GACC using standard procedures established in the National Interagency Mobilization Guide, Section 24. (See NMG, Section 13.1).

## **45.3 OZARK-ST. FRANCIS NATIONAL FOREST**

The Mark Twain National Forest (R-9) and the Ozark-St. Francis National Forest (R-8) have a cooperative agreement to exchange fire training information and initial attack fire suppression support across regional boundaries.

## **45.4 STATES**

Cooperative Fire Protection Agreements exist between **all** 20 states within the Eastern Area and the Forest Service. Copies of these agreements are administered and maintained by Northeastern Area. These agreements are updated with annual operating plans. The agreements are for the purpose of the Forest Service to provide fire protection assistance to the states and the states to furnish fire protection resources when needed by cooperating agencies through the Forest Service mobilization. (There are separate NFS/State agreements entered into by each National Forest).

**Some of the states within the Eastern Area have addendums to their Cooperative Agreements to allow their participation in all-hazard assignments including FEMA incidents.**

## 45.5 NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE

The National Agreement for Meteorological Services between the National Weather Service (NWS) and the Federal land management agencies identifies the services to be provided by and defines the financial obligations of the User and/or NWS. Fire weather services are provided for the area by the NWS Meteorologists in 37 offices located at:

	<b><i>NWS Eastern Region</i></b>		
1.	Maryland (Sterling, VA)	2.	New England (Albany, NY)
3.	New England (Brookhaven, NY)	4.	New England (Burlington, VT)
5.	New England (Caribou, ME)	6.	New England (Gray, ME)
7.	New England (Taunton, MA)	8.	New York/Pennsylvania (Binghamton, NY)
9.	New York (Upton, NY)	10.	New York (Buffalo, NY)
11.	New Jersey (Mount Holly, NJ)	12.	Ohio (Wilmington, OH)
13.	Ohio (Cleveland, OH)	14.	Pennsylvania (State College, PA)
15.	Pennsylvania (Pittsburg, PA)	16.	West Virginia (Charleston, WV)
	<b><i>NWS Central Region</i></b>		
1.	Illinois (Chicago/Romoeville, IL)	2.	Michigan (Gaylord, MI)
3.	Michigan (Marquette, MI)	4.	Michigan (Grand Rapids, MI)
5.	Michigan (White Lake, MI)	6.	Minnesota (Chanhassen, MN)
7.	Minnesota (Duluth, MN)	8.	Minnesota (Grand Forks, ND)
9.	Minnesota (Sioux Falls, SD)	10.	Minnesota (Aberdeen, SD)
11.	Missouri (Springfield, MO)	12.	Indiana (Indianapolis, IN)
13.	Illinois (Lincoln, IL)	14.	Illinois/Indiana (Paducah, KY)
15.	Indiana (North Webster, IN)	16.	Indiana/Ohio (Louisville, KY)
17.	Iowa (Davenport, IA)	18.	Iowa (Des Moines, IA)
19.	Wisconsin (Green Bay, WI)	20.	Wisconsin (La Crosse, WI)
21.	Wisconsin (Sullivan, WI)		

Services available to the units are listed in two categories:

1. Basic Services – These types of service are provided without cost and are processed directly between the units and their servicing NWS Office. When requesting spot-weather forecasts or special forecasts, inform the forecaster of the duration and type of forecasts anticipated. Be sure to inform forecaster when services are no longer needed.

2. Special Services - These are services provided on a reimbursable basis. Units should place these orders directly with the NWS Office. The EACC Center Manager will assist only when problems arise in securing needed services. Units should retain a copy of the national agreement and the latest NWS annual operating plan.



## 45.6 COMPACTS

Compacts are essentially mutual aid agreements between the States authorized by Congress for the sharing of firefighting resources in the Northeastern Area of the United States and adjacent areas in Canada. There are four compacts in the Eastern Area.

1. The Northeastern Forest Fire Protection Commission (Compact), comprised of the following States, and Provinces:

State of New York	State of Connecticut
State of Rhode Island	State of Vermont
State of New Hampshire	State of Maine
Commonwealth of Massachusetts	Province of New Brunswick
Province of Nova Scotia	Province of Quebec

2. Mid-Atlantic Interstate Forest Fire Compact, comprised of the following States:

State of Ohio	State of West Virginia
State of Maryland	Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
State of Delaware	State of New Jersey
State of Virginia	

3. Great Lakes Forest Fire Compact, comprised of the following States and Provinces:

State of Minnesota	State of Wisconsin
State of Michigan	Province of Ontario
Province of Manitoba	

4. Big Rivers Forest Fire Compact, comprised of the following states:

State of Indiana	State of Iowa
State of Missouri	State of Illinois

Mobilization could occur between states or within the compact area at the request of a compact member.

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